## TRANSCRIFT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE Transcriber's Office FLOOR DEBATE

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increased demand for ethanol and those in agriculture will One of the reasons that I probably gradually changed benefit. my mind over the last few years, doesn't mean I'm not still Republican, Senator Chambers, but it means that there is...there is...there has to be some tinkering with the free enterprise system to some degree. I look at the...in the world side, you know, we can't get our beef in the European economic market, no matter what we do, including the WTO favorable decision to the United States, we still do not get beef into the European common market because they've raised trade barriers. The point is the free enterprise system doesn't work worldwide as we would like it to do. There is tinkering with the system, there is keeping out of products that are raised cheaper somewhere else, or they don't want to have that competition. They use various forms of food safety standards, whatever it serves. We don't get all our products into Japan that we should. So here we are tinkering with an enterprise perhaps in states. And I see this as an effort to try to improve the demand for ethanol in the state, way for us to capitalize on what we have here in this country, in this state. I think that long-term, the way we're headed, toward the large commercial farms that Senator Chambers is talking about, is going to be working to a detriment to us as we increasingly concentrate livestock numbers. agriculturists and as farmers, in the minority in this country. Senator Chambers ought to know what I'm talking about there. We are that. One point six million commercial farms in the United States and probably many less than that are truly full-time commercial farms. That ought to constitute as a minority compared to the 240-, 250-, 260 million population we have in this country. So I think it stands to reason that we have no choice to turn to government, to some degree, to try to make our way, whether it's the dairy compact bill, which I intend to bring back, I do not consider that defeated at this point, or to do something in the area of ethanol. It's a way that we can help ourselves add value on the farm and hopefully be rewarded for that rather than being totally at the mercy of the market. And if it's not detrimental to the consumer, in the long-term, I say what's wrong with that.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: One minute.